

Land Use Study 3 (Comprehensive Plan Consistency Evaluation)

Objectives of the Study

To determine the compatibility and consistency of the project with comprehensive and/or management plans and policies that have been developed by planning and resource agencies and other entities.

Relationship to Relicensing/Need for Study

FERC requires that projects be consistent with comprehensive and/or management plans that have been approved by FERC. These can include federal, state, regional and local plans. It is important to know if current and potential project related policy, management and operational activities are consistent with FERC approved and other, comprehensive and management plans.

Study Area

Plans that manage or address lands within the Oroville Facilities FERC project boundary, contiguous properties, and other lands within ¼ mile of the project boundaries.

Methodology and Analysis

Land Use Study 3 will consist of two phases: 1) a review and summary of existing comprehensive plans that potentially influence, or are potentially influenced by, the project and, 2) a determination of consistency.

Phase 1: Review and Summary of Existing Comprehensive Plans

This task will involve a literature and data review of existing comprehensive and management plans that have been identified by FERC. Comprehensive and/or management plans that are not on the FERC approved list (such as the general plans of Butte County and the City of Oroville), but that may influence land use and management of project lands or lands near the project, will also be reviewed. The plans and/or portions of the plans that are relevant to the project will be summarized as part of Phase 1.

The plans that will be reviewed include, but are not limited to:

(FERC Identified Plans):

- California Outdoor Recreation Plan. California Department of Parks and Recreation. 1993. Sacramento, California. April 1994
- Public Opinions and Attitudes on Outdoor Recreation in California – 1997. Department of Parks and Recreation. 1993. Sacramento, California. March 1988.
- The California Water Plan Update. California Department of Water Resources Bulletin 160-93. Sacramento, California. October 1994.
- Recreation Needs in California. California Department of Parks and Recreation. 1983. Sacramento, California. March 1983.

(Plans not identified by FERC):

- Butte County General Plan. Butte County Oroville, California. 1996.
- City Oroville General Plan. Oroville, California, 1995.
- Plumas National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (LMRP). U.S. Forest Service, Plumas National Forest, _____, California. 1988.
- Redding Resource Management Plan and Record of Decision. BLM. _____, California, 1993.
- Recreation Plan for Lake Oroville State Recreation Area. California Department of Water Resources. Sacramento, California. 1993.
- Oroville Wildlife Management Area Management Plan. California Department of Fish and Game. Sacramento, California. 1978.

Phase 2: Determination of Consistency

Land Use Study 3 will evaluate whether or not existing project facilities and operations are consistent with the comprehensive plans reviewed during Phase 1. Potential changes to project facilities and operations that are being suggested by workgroups will also be evaluated for consistency. If inconsistencies are identified, a discussion regarding what would be necessary to resolve the inconsistencies (if anything) will be included as part of Phase 2.

Results/Products

The deliverable associated with Land Use Study 3 will consist of a resource report that will assess how compliant the project currently is with comprehensive and/or management plans and how compliant planned or suggested future actions would be.

Coordination With Other Resource Areas/Studies

Prior to starting Land Use Study 3, we will meet with other work groups to determine where and when relevant data can be gathered and shared with other groups. Land Use Study 3 will likely be coordinated with the Engineering and Operations; Environmental; Cultural Resources; and Recreation and Socioeconomic Work Groups. . Much of data the collection that will be done for this study will be done at the same time, and in conjunction with, the other (Land Use Studies 1 and 2) land related studies.

Schedule

Phase 1 of this study is tentatively scheduled to be started during the late winter of 2002 and completed by early summer of 2002. Phase 2 is tentatively scheduled to begin in the summer of 2002 and completed by late fall, or early winter of 2002.

Issues, Concerns, Comments Tracking and/or Compliance Requirements

This study was not identified by the Work Group, but needs to be performed for FERC compliance.